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Agenda item 73 (b)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen: draft resolution

Humanitarian assistance and reconstruction for El Salvador and Guatemala

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/1 B of 5 October 1998, 53/1 C of 2 November 1998, 54/96 E of 15 December 1999, 58/117 of 17 December 2003, 59/212 of 20 December 2004, and 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December of 2004,

Reiterating its concern over the unpredictable manner in which natural hazards occur and the need for the United Nations system to respond to requests for assistance by Member States with impartiality and equality,

Deeply regretting the loss of human lives and the scores of victims in the wake of tropical storm Stan, aggravated by other natural events, in El Salvador and Guatemala, from 3 to 12 October 2005,

Conscious of the huge material losses sustained to crops, homes, basic infrastructure and tourist and other areas,

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Acknowledging the efforts of the Governments of El Salvador and Guatemala to protect the lives of their nationals and rapidly to assist the affected population, in particular the indigenous communities,

Conscious that the Central American countries are vulnerable and, as a result of their geographical features, prone to natural hazards, which impose additional challenges on the possibility of their achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting the enormous effort that will be required to rebuild the affected areas and to alleviate the grave situation wreaked by these natural hazards,

Aware that the work of reconstruction requires the fullest coordinated support as well as the unwavering solidarity of the international community,

1. *Expresses its solidarity and support* to the Government and the peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the members of the international community that have offered their support to the rescue efforts and emergency assistance for the affected population;

3. *Appeals* to all Member States and all organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions and development agencies, to provide speedy support to the relief, rehabilitation and assistance effort for the affected countries;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to provide assistance in response to the flash appeal for Guatemala and to the joint United Nations agency appeal in El Salvador;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions and development agencies, to assist El Salvador and Guatemala, whenever possible, through increased technical and financial assistance that contributes to overcoming the emergency and achieving the rehabilitation and recovery of the economy and the affected population in the short, medium and long term, in conformity with the priorities identified at the national level;

6. *Requests* the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations to increase their support and assistance for strengthening the disaster-preparedness capacity of the countries concerned;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 2006, on the collaborative effort referred to in paragraph 5 above and on the progress made in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of the affected countries.